



The Marianists  
PROVINCE OF THE UNITED STATES

February 28, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman  
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Nanci Langley  
Commissioner Mark Acton  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so, if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is education across the United States, parish ministry, retreat ministry. We also raise funds for our mission abroad that serve the most poor and needy in Eastern Africa and India.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have a profound impact on our mission and the people we serve.

Please do not impose this increase upon organization that are trying to assist many people whom the government cannot serve.

Sincerely,

Fr. Martin A. Solma, SM  
Provincial

cc: Allison Hewitt, Director of Mission Advancement

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COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



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Our mission is to educate the poor and young people.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have the a deleterious impact on our mission and the people we serve, which is for the common good of the United States and beyond.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

*Thomas J. Harding, Sr.*